



LESSON 1 NOAH

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Honors Righteousness

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 6–9

GOD'S BIG STORY: Sin in the world increases so greatly God chooses to destroy the world in a flood. till, He remains faithful and honors righteousness by saving Noah and his family and establishing a covenant promise with them.

WORD OF WONDER: So I want you to realize that the LORD your God is God. He is the faithful God. He keeps his covenant for all time to come. He keeps it with those who love him and obey his commandments. He shows them his love. —Deuteronomy 7:9

CURIOSITY

BELIEF

FAITH

- Welcome Question: Who is someone who always knows the right thing to do?
- Curiosity Questions
- Discussion Questions for Younger and Older Kids
- Small Group Prayer Time
- Word of Wonder: Deuteronomy 7:9
- Word of Wonder Activity
- LARGE GROUP
- Responding in Worship: Remembering and Thanksgiving



[Faithful Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

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WONDER TRUTH: God Honors Righteousness

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WORD OF WONDER: Deuteronomy 7:9

Do you ever have moments where you realize that unless you step up, no one else will? Sometimes it's simple—in my home with my three kids, I often realize the sock on the floor will stay there forever unless I decide to take care of it. Or there are bigger things—a parent needs care, and you are the one available to help. Or it's Saturday night, and you get called to fill in for kids' ministry on Sunday.

I wonder if this is how Noah felt when he received God's instructions to build the ark. Out of all people on earth, God chose him for a monumental task that probably felt confusing and undesirable. But Noah was righteous, so he obeyed. God had seen in him the desire to do what is right—and because of this, Noah and his family were saved from the flood.

Living righteously isn't always fun, and it may not even seem rewarding at the time. The tasks God gives us often involve serving and giving of ourselves. And yet, as we do what God asks us to do, He honors us. He allows us to become more like Him, to grow in faith and good works.

So, whatever task God has called you to today, do it with a joyful heart, grateful that God honors righteousness.

—Denise Morris Snyder

Spiritual Formation Pastor

Contributor to Wonder Ink

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

“[Noah] was without blame among the people of his time. He walked faithfully with God” (Genesis 6:9). Noah’s righteousness is evident in his trust of God throughout the flood story, and God honors him for it. Noah sounds like the Hebrew word for comfort or rest.

WHAT?

The world was full of violence and evil. God regretted making human beings and decided to destroy with a flood all life except for Noah’s family and the animals in his care. God faithfully delivered creation by keeping them all safe on the ark and establishing a covenant with Noah after the flood.

WHERE?

Noah and his family most likely lived somewhere in Mesopotamia, which comes from the Greek word meaning “in the midst of the rivers.” This usually implies the Tigris and Euphrates river valley. They landed on Mount Ararat (Genesis 8:4), which is in modern-day Turkey.

WHEN?

Genesis 6–9 comes shortly after the story of the first murder in Genesis 4. By Genesis 6, sin has corrupted the earth and filled it with violence. God has seen the worst of what humanity can be living under the reign of sin and has become greatly distressed by it.

CONNECTING TO GOD’S BIG STORY

Noah walked with God, and God honored his righteousness by delivering creation from total destruction. In much the same way, Abraham walked with God. God honored his righteousness with the promise that would lead to Jesus, who delivers us from the power of death and makes all things new.

Small Group

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

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Pre-Service (15–20 min)

RESOURCES: [Coloring Page](#)

Small group leaders should be seated in place in their small groups 20 minutes prior to service time. Have play stations with various board games, activities, or use games from the extra Games & Activities Guide to keep children occupied and engaged WITH you. This time is important to build relationships, welcome new kids, and keep structure in the room - you should be an active participant with them!

Learn the kids names, and make sure they all know yours too!

Warmly welcome new friends, and introduce them to your group.

Allow quieter kids who don't engage with the board games to color. Involve them in the curiosity questions.

While kids are playing in their opening activity groups..

Pose the following “I’m curious” questions. Say “I’m curious...” before each question and give kids a chance to think about and answer each one. After each question, consider having kids share their ideas with a neighbor before you call on one or two of them to share with the group.

- **Do you find it easy or difficult to do the right thing when the people around you are not? Explain your thoughts.**
- **How would you explain what righteousness is to a friend?**

Affirm kids for sharing their thoughts. Then add on to what they’ve shared by explaining that righteousness is choosing the right way or showing through actions that God is the creator and source of all that is good.

Small Group Begins: Welcome Question 2–3 min

SUPPLIES: whiteboard, poster paper, or butcher paper, writing utensils

As kids arrive, invite them to write/draw the answer to the Welcome Question:

“Who is someone who always knows the right thing to do?” Set out sheets of paper and colored pencils.

Right at your service time, move into Small Group time by sharing your own answers and allowing kids to talk about their answers.

Small Group Discussion: Younger Kids 5–8 min

Invite kids to grab their Bibles, and help them find Genesis. Remind kids that the large numbers are chapter numbers, and small numbers are verse numbers. Explain to kids that the book of Genesis is in the Old Testament of the Bible. The book of Genesis tells us the true stories about how God made the world and began a relationship with humankind.

Read Genesis 6:11-22 aloud. Encourage kids to listen carefully to what God told Noah to make and why. Read Genesis 9:11-16 and encourage kids to listen for what the sign is for God's promise.

- **Why was God sad at this point in God's big story?**
- **How did God protect Noah?**
- **What is the covenant or promise God made to Noah?**
- **What is the most amazing part of this story to you? Why is this part of the story amazing?**
- **How do you think Noah felt as he built the ark? As the rain first started to fall? As he, his family, and all the animals came out of the ark many months later? Why?**
- **Is it easy or hard to always do the right thing? Why?**
- **How does it make you feel to know that God sees when you do what is right and that He honors you?**
- **What questions do you have after hearing this story? What does this story teach you about God?**

"It's not always easy to do the right thing, especially when those around us aren't. However, we learn from the story of Noah that God always sees when we are faithful to Him, and He will honor and respect righteousness. Let's pray and ask God's Holy Spirit to help us make right choices and live according to God's good ways."

Prayer Time: Younger Kids

Lead kids in prayer by encouraging them to share an area where they need God's help to do the right thing. Then you may say a prayer or ask for a volunteer to pray for the Holy Spirit to help each kid to trust that God's way is best and to make right choices. Close this prayer time by thanking God for seeing each of His children and for honoring righteousness.

Leader Tip: Kids may ask hard questions about this story; you don't need to have all the answers! Help direct kids to what we know is true: God is good, and He honored Noah for his righteousness.

Small Group Discussion: Older Kids 8–12 min

SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid)

Invite kids to grab their Bibles. Remind kids that the large numbers are chapter numbers, and small numbers are verse numbers. Explain to kids that the book of Genesis is in the Old Testament of the Bible. The book of Genesis tells us the true stories about how God made the world and began a relationship with humankind.

Give a brief overview of the history and context using the info on page 3 of this guide.

Select four volunteers to read today's Bible passage. One volunteer will read Genesis 6:11-22; the next will read 7:4-10 another volunteer will read 8:1-4 and the last volunteer will read 9:11-16

- **How did God feel as this part of His big story began? Why did He feel that way?**
- **How did God honor Noah's righteousness?**
- **What is the covenant or promise God made to Noah?**
- **How do you think Noah felt as he built the ark? As the rain first started to fall? As he, his family, and all the animals came out of the ark many months later? Why?**
- **What is the most amazing part of this story to you? Why is this part of the story amazing?**
- **Have you ever been in a situation where you were the only person trying to do the right thing? What happened? How did you feel?**
- **How does it make you feel to know God sees when you trust and obey Him by doing the right thing?**
- **What questions do you have after hearing this story? What does this story teach you about God?**

"Doing the right thing can be difficult, especially when we feel like we are the only ones doing so. However, we saw in the story of Noah that God sees when we are faithful to Him, and He will honor and respect righteousness. Let's pray and thank God for honoring righteousness."

Prayer Time: Older Kids

Allow kids to find a partner and share an area where they need God's help to do the right thing. Encourage kids to pray for one another. When they are finished, close in prayer as a group, thanking God for being the faithful God who sees and honors righteousness.

Leader Tip: Kids may ask hard questions about this story; you don't need to have all the answers! Help direct kids to what we know is true: God is good, and He honored Noah for his righteousness.

Older Kids – Notes Page

**Complete the Notes Page with kids. Helping them to fill out all of the spaces. This is an important way for parents to see what their kids are learning each way and have meaningful conversations at home!

WORD OF WONDER

So I want you to realize that the LORD your God is God. He is the faithful God. He keeps his covenant for all time to come. He keeps it with those who love him and obey his commandments. He shows them his love.

—Deuteronomy 7:9 (NirV)

Word of Wonder

SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid)

"The Word of Wonder for the Faithful series is Deuteronomy 7:9. Today we've learned how God sees us and honors our right actions as we follow Him. This verse tells us more about how God keeps His promises and shows His love to those who obey Him. Let's read the Word of Wonder together!"

Have kids open their Bibles to Deuteronomy 7:9 and display the Word of Wonder Slide on the screen. Read the verse several times together. Consider having kids read the verse in different voices that describe God, such as gentle or strong.

Gather kids to talk about these questions:

- What does it mean that God is a faithful God?
- How does this verse show that God honors righteousness?

Word of Wonder Activity

SUPPLIES: whiteboard, dry-erase marker

Ask for a volunteer to read the Word of Wonder, or have a leader read it if your group includes many developing readers. Then write the following words on a whiteboard: God, covenant, love, and commandments. Have kids stand up and get ready to move as they learn the Word of Wonder.

"Today we have seen how God is a faithful God who honors those who are righteous. Let's work on memorizing our Word of Wonder so we always remember who God is!"

The Word of Wonder for this series has the following words. Read out loud the words on the whiteboard: God, covenant, love, and commandments. Explain that a covenant is an unbreakable promise. Let's work together to come up with motions that show what these words mean. We'll use these motions to help us remember the Word of Wonder."

After your group comes up with motions, practice saying the verse out loud while incorporating them.

Leader Tip: For Older Kids. Encourage kids to choose five or six words from the Word of Wonder and create motions to go along with them.

Large Group!

Responding in Worship: Remembering and Thanksgiving

SUPPLIES: pens, markers, colored pencils

RESOURCES: Righteousness Journal Sheet (1 per kid), [Faithful Elementary Spotify playlist](#) (optional)

Ahead of time, print a copy of the Righteousness Journal Sheet for each kid. Gather kids together. Pass out a Righteousness Journal Sheet to each kid, and have a supply of pens, markers, and colored pencils readily accessible for all kids.

"Today we've talked about how Noah made right choices even when everyone around him chose not to follow God. God remembered Noah and honored his righteousness by protecting him from the flood and blessing his family.

There are many other examples of God's faithfulness and goodness to those who follow Him, some from our own lives! We're going to take some time to think of examples of when God has seen someone's right choices and honored that person's trust in Him. On your journal page, you're either going to write or draw a picture about a time God remembered and took care of someone who followed Him. You may use an example from your own life, someone else's life, or an example from the Bible. Take a few minutes to reflect, and then we'll talk about your examples. You may want to consider giving a few examples to get kids' thinking going.

Give kids a few minutes to reflect and write or draw their examples. As they are working, consider playing music from the [Faithful Elementary Spotify playlist](#). After a few minutes, ask for volunteers to share their reflections. You may also share your own story of God's faithfulness!

Wow! Our God is so good, isn't He? Thank you for sharing your examples of God's faithfulness to His people. We know sometimes life isn't easy. Sometimes people will encourage us to follow their example instead of the example of Jesus. It's tempting to follow the crowd, but we can have faith we are not alone. God gave us His Holy Spirit to help us trust Him and make right choices. God wants us to live His way, not because He wants to burden us with rules, but because He knows His way is the best way. God loves us! He always remembers us because He is faithful, and God honors righteousness.

Let's take some time to praise God for His faithfulness to us." Play "10,000 Reasons" or another song from the [Faithful Elementary Spotify playlist](#) and worship together as a large group.

